

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 07040 281228Z

51

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 INT-05 TRSE-00 AID-05

OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-02 IO-10 EUR-12 /078 W

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R 280845Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8918

UNCLAS NEW ELHI 7040

EO. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIN IN

SUBJECT: INDIA' FIRST SPONGE IRON PLANT

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NW DELHI INFO BOMBAY CALCUTTA FROM MADRAS
MAY 27 RPEATED:

QUOTE

MADRAS0673

E., 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, IN

SUBJECT: INDIA'S FIRST SPONGE IRON PLANT

1. GOI INDUSTRIES MINISTER T.A. PAI IS O INAUGURATE ON
JUNE 2, 1975 INDIA'S FIRST SPONRE IRON PLANT AT VIJAYAWADA,
ANDHRA PRADESH, THIS PLANT HAS BEEN ERECTED BY ANDHRA
CEMENT COMPANY, A UNIT OF THE KCP RROUP, AND IS BASED
ON INDIGENOUS KNOW-HOW PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL
METALLURGICAL LABORATORY, JAMSHEDPUR WITH EQUIPMEN
PROCURED WITHIN INDIA. AT AN ESTIMATED COST N RS. 10
MILLION ONE OF THE OLD CEMENT KILNS OF THE ANDHRA CEMENT
COMPANY HAS BEEN CONVERTED TO PRODUCE SPONGE IRON USING
HIGH GRADE IRON ORE AND NON-BITUMENOUS COKING COAL TO
PRODUCE ANNUALLY 30,000 TONS OF SPONGE IRON. ACCORDING
TO A SPOKESMAN OF THE COMPANY THE DIRECT REDUCTION PROCSS
IS USED AND TESTS HAV ALREADY BEEN MADE WITH IRON ORE

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FROM THE BELLARY-HOSPET AREA IN KARNATAKA AND COAL FROM

SINGARENI IN ANDHRA PRADESH AND TALCHER IN ORISSA.
TRIAL PRODUCTION OF SPONGE IRON HAS ALREADY BEEN SATIS-

FACTORILY TESTED FOR USE IN MINI-STEEL PLANTS,
WHILE EXPORT PROSPECTS FOR SPONGE IRON ARE SAID TO BE
FAVORABLE, INITIAL PRODUCTION WILL BE SOLD LOCALLY.

2. COMMENT: SEVERAL STATE INDUSTRIAL CORPORATIONS ARE
PLANNING SPONGE IRON PROJECTS. WE HAVE REPORTED EXTENSIVELY ON
ONE TO BE ESTABLISHED IN ANDHRA PRADESH WITH UNDP ASSISTANCE,
PROBABLY USING WEST GERMAN TECHNOLOGY. IF THE CIJAYAWADA PLANT
OPERATES SUCCESSFULLY, IT COULD MEAN THESE PROJECTS WILL
RECONSIDER USING FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY. SIGNE EAVES
UNQUOTE SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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